

JAN 28 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TO BUILD
ALTERNATIVE HOUSING OPTIONS FOR LESSEES.

1 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as
2 amended, provides the legal basis for the establishment of the
3 Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; and
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5 WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands provides
6 direct benefits to native Hawaiians in the form of homestead
7 leases granted for residential, agricultural, pastoral, or
8 aquacultural purposes at an annual rental rate of \$1; and
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10 WHEREAS, in 1990, these homestead leases were extended from
11 ninety-nine years to an aggregate term not to exceed one hundred
12 ninety-nine years; and
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14 WHEREAS, the intent of the Department of Hawaiian Home
15 Lands' homesteading program is to support the economic self-
16 sufficiency of native Hawaiians through the provision of land;
17 and
18

19 WHEREAS, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands banking accounts
20 currently contain more than \$38,000,000 in federal moneys
21 intended for homestead housing; and
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23 WHEREAS, more than twenty thousand eligible beneficiaries
24 are on the waiting list for residential homesteads, and many
25 have been on the list for decades; and
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27 WHEREAS, only about two hundred eligible beneficiaries
28 receive homestead leases, including residential leases, each
29 year; and
30



S.R. NO. 13

1 WHEREAS, some eligible beneficiaries on the waiting list
 2 for residential homesteads are not financially able to obtain a
 3 mortgage in order to accept a homestead lease; and
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5 WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands could most
 6 efficiently and effectively meet its nearly century-old
 7 responsibility to provide residential homestead leases by
 8 providing alternative housing options, including those that do
 9 not require eligible beneficiaries to first qualify for a
 10 mortgage; now, therefore,
 11

12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
 13 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, urges the
 14 Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to provide alternative housing
 15 options for lessees; and
 16

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that alternative housing options
 18 should include but not be limited to single family, multi-
 19 family, plantation, farm, rental, kupuna, and disabled housing,
 20 as well as apartments and rent-to-own programs; and
 21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to alternative
 23 housing options, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands should
 24 include community centers, wellness centers, commercial centers,
 25 and industrial centers in its development plans; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 28 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chair of the Hawaiian
 29 Homes Commission, and Chair of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs
 30 Board of Trustees.
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 33

OFFERED BY:

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